

first anniversary of his first elected term of office. He will always have my support and best wishes.

SALUTE TO A FRIEND—JOHN K. MEAGHER

HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend my congratulations to my great friend, John K. Meagher, who has recently been named the managing director of the newly established Tax & Trade Group at Cassidy and Associates.

John has had a distinguished career which began when he and I served side-by-side on the staff of our own Congressman, former Rep. Alexander Pirnie of New York. We spent 5 years as colleagues and grew to be best friends. We have remained so to this day.

John was always interested in the law and has served with distinction as Republican counsel to the Ways and Means Committee, as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury under Secretaries Baker and Brady as a partner in the law firm of Le Boeuf, Lamb, Greene and Mac Rae.

He not only understands the law, he understands the Congress and the executive branch as well. He's been both places as a junior staffer and as a high official. He knows us and how we work.

As he and his colleagues in the Tax & Trade Group embark on their new and exciting venture, I wish my friend well.

IN HONOR OF CHARLES BENDHEIM

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note with great sorrow the passing of Charles Bendheim, philanthropist, Israeli patriot, husband, brother, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He passed away last Friday at his home in Jerusalem. He will be missed.

Mr. Bendheim was born in Brooklyn, NY, in 1917. During the Israeli War of Independence, he helped the Hagana obtain arms for the new country. He remained deeply involved with the new nation for the rest of his life.

Just before he died, Mr. Bendheim was cited as a Ne'eman Yerushalayim by the city of Jerusalem. This award, making him an "Honorary Fellow of the City of Jerusalem," has been bestowed on only 15 other people. At a special ceremony in the Jerusalem City Hall, Mayor Olmert declared: "For fifty years you have worked tirelessly for Jerusalem—for its hospitals, educational institutions and the economic development of the city." Indeed he did. And he was just as active here in the United States.

Mr. Bendheim served as a member of the board and the executive committee of Yeshiva University. He served as chairman of the board at Manhattan Day School. He was involved in many other charitable organizations in his 79 years—too many to list here.

Mr. Bendheim will be fondly remembered at the schools he helped, at the Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem whose new building he helped build as chairman of the board, and the other institutions that his philanthropy benefited. But the way Charles Bendheim will be remembered best is through the family he left behind. Besides his wife and sister, Mr. Bendheim leaves behind 7 children, 45 grandchildren, and 21 great-grandchildren.

By dedicating his life to serving his community, Charles Bendheim became a role model for generations here and in Israel. His children have followed in his footsteps, playing important roles in their communities. The Bendheim family continues to be involved in many schools, hospitals, religious institutions, and numerous other charitable organizations in the United States and Israel.

Mr. Speaker, the world is a little darker this week. The light that was Charles Bendheim has been dimmed. But through his work and family, he will live on forever. He will not be forgotten.

THE LOSS OF THE "FAMILY HOUR"

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, where has the "family hour" gone? What happened to the wholesome series such as "The Cosby Show" and "Happy Days?" Vulgar language and sexual material have invaded the time slot between 8 and 9 pm in unprecedented volume, rendering the "family hour" nearly obsolete. A February 1997 study which analyzed television shows during a 4-week period found one-third of the programs to contain obscene language and another third to contain sexual references.

I am appalled by the subject material which has become acceptable during the "family hour." But even more than that, I am outraged that the networks have become so concerned with ratings that family values have gone by the wayside in favor of programs focusing on premarital sex, violence, and homosexuality. The fact is that the networks may be misguided thinking that this is what an American audience wants to watch. One of the highest rated shows, *Touched by an Angel*, focuses on heart-felt themes and teaching good values.

Mr. Speaker, more than 90 percent of Americans believe in God. But when was the last time we saw a television character go to a priest or a rabbi to seek counsel in making one of life's difficult decisions? I can't say that I've ever seen this on prime-time television.

We are inundated by sex and violence on television. I don't feel comfortable sitting down to watch television with my grandchildren anymore. Even with the new television ratings system, programs rated G and PG contain sex and obscenities unsuitable for our children and grandchildren.

The family hour picture is bleaker than ever before. The ratings system is poorly applied and the networks appear to have little desire to clean up their act. The anything goes mentality has come to replace one in which core family values are of central importance. I urge the networks to reevaluate their priorities. A

return to the family hour might be just the ticket to both higher ratings and more well-grounded American values.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HIGHWAY RESTORATION ACT

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 16, 1997

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I along with Congressman LIPINSKI and ten other colleagues are introducing the Highway Restoration Act. This bill will address the tremendous need that has arisen for the maintenance and restoration of our Interstate Highway System.

The National Highway System is second to none in its ability to provide an efficient and safe network of roads, highways, and bridges linking the country together. Its existence has been crucial to our national defense and to interstate commerce. The System that we know today was largely the result of President Eisenhower's leadership and foresight, and just last year, we celebrated its 40th anniversary.

Unfortunately, many pieces of this 42,000-mile system are getting old and in need of repair. Current Federal programs for interstate maintenance and restoration do not adequately address the growing costs and needs associated with our aging highways. That is why I have introduced the Highway Restoration Act of 1997. This bill calls for funding the Discretionary Interstate Resurfacing, Restoration, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program [I-4R] at \$800 million per year. The I-4R Program is the Federal discretionary program responsible for helping States maintain our highways, and it is separate from the Interstate Maintenance Program [IM] which distributes funds to the States based on a formula.

An adequately funded I-4R Program is necessary to ensure the longevity of our Interstate Highway System, because it allows factors, other than lane miles and vehicle miles traveled, to be taken into account when funds are distributed. Such factors for which the I-4R Program is able to account, include: The need to complete a project in a short period of time in order to reduce or minimize traffic disruptions; a particularly costly section of highway; traffic congestion caused by repair work; and delays in construction. The I-4R Program gives States the flexibility they need to effectively manage the repairs and preservation of our highways. Thus, sufficient funding for this program is crucial if we are to prolong the lifespan of our Interstate System, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me as a cosponsor of this important piece of legislation.

HONORING THE QUENTIS B. GARTH FOUNDATION, INC.

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 16, 1997

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Quentis B. Garth Foundation, Inc., which has served youths in the Chicagoland